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## Santa Monica mayor letter support SB 613

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Mayor **Ted Winterer**  
Mayor Pro Tempore **Gleam Davis**

Councilmembers  
**Sue Himmelrich**  
**Kevin McKeown**  
**Pam O'Connor**  
**Terry O'Day**  
**Tony Vazquez**

April 18, 2017

The Honorable Nancy Skinner  
Chair, Senate Public Safety Committee  
State Capitol, Room 2031  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**RE: SB 613 (de León): Immigration status.**  
**City of Santa Monica – SUPPORT**

Dear Chair Skinner,

On behalf of the City of Santa Monica, I am pleased to write to you in **SUPPORT** of **SB 613 (de León)**, and respectfully request your **"AYE"** vote when this bill is heard in your committee. This bill would eliminate state cooperation in immigration enforcement at state hospitals, developmental centers, and juvenile justice facilities.

Specifically, this bill would repeal the requirement for the state departments of Developmental Services and State Hospitals and the Division of Juvenile Justice to cooperate with the United States Department of Homeland Security in arranging for the deportation of individuals who are confined in their institutions. State agencies that care for juveniles, mental health patients, and the developmentally disabled should not have an obligation to engage in immigration enforcement, which is a federal responsibility. Additionally, knowing that the threat of deportation could be imminent at these state facilities may deter immigrants from seeking services, even those immigrants who may hold valid visas and be legal permanent residents.

Hard-working immigrants are vital participants in California's cultural diversity, economy, and vibrant communities. In light of action at the federal level to increase deportation efforts throughout the nation, California should continue to demonstrate leadership on this issue by protecting and serving all California residents, regardless of immigration status. Preserving trust within our communities is in the best interest of all Californians.

The City of Santa Monica is committed to embracing diversity, rejecting hate, and maintaining public safety in our communities. Recently, the Santa Monica Police Department announced the termination of its agreement with the Department of Homeland Security's Immigration & Customs Enforcement branch. **SB 613 (de León)** will similarly help ensure that California's laws reflect California's values.

For these reasons, the City of Santa Monica **SUPPORTS SB 613 (de León)**. Thank you for considering this important measure.

Sincerely,

Ted Winterer  
Mayor

cc: Members and Consultants, Senate Public Safety Committee  
The Honorable Kevin de León, 24<sup>th</sup> Senate District  
The Honorable Ben Allen, 26<sup>th</sup> Senate District  
The Honorable Richard Bloom, 50<sup>th</sup> Assembly District  
Joshua W. Shaw, Shaw / Yoder / Antwih, Inc.